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P. Raymond, Henry
 My Testimony
 P. Marchenko, Anatoly T.

Account of Soviet Prison Brutality Is Smuggled Out

By HENRY RAYMONT

A 30-year-old Russian, defying an injunction against unauthorized publication abroad, has smuggled to the West a dramatic account of Soviet prison camp conditions that portray them as unchanged in their inhumanity since Stalin's rule. The book was written in 1967.

The author is Anatoly T. Marchenko, an engineer who was imprisoned from 1960 to 1966 on charges of high treason. He had been caught while attempting to flee to Iran after having been sentenced to a year in prison for brawling with a group of youths.

During his last year in a camp for political prisoners, he was a fellow inmate of Yuri M. Daniel, the writer whose conviction in February, 1966, caused an outcry among liberal Soviet intellectuals. According to Mr. Marchenko's account, the hard labor and ill treatment in the camp have deafened Mr. Daniel.

The 80,000-word Marchenko manuscript, entitled "My Testimony," will be published here this summer by E. P. Dutton & Co. and in London by Pall Mall Press. John Macrae 3d, president of Dutton, said yesterday that the document had been authenticated by such experts on Soviet writing as Max Hayward and Michael Glenny, two leading British translators.

Although he refused to disclose how the manuscript reached the West, Mr. Macrae indicated that friends of the author had sent it out of the country after Mr. Marchenko was arrested last July 29. He was sentenced in Moscow to a year of hard labor for distributing an open letter condemning the Soviet Union's repression of Czechoslovakia's democratization program. The letter was sent before the Soviet-led invasion of Czechoslovakia Aug. 20-21, and was widely publicized in Prague and later in Western newspapers.

Mr. Macrae said that he had obtained American publishing rights to "My Testimony" from Murray Madlin, editor of Pall Mall Press, a wholly owned subsidiary of Frederick A. Praeger Inc., of New York. Mr. Madlin, an authority on Soviet literature, was formerly associated with the Congress for Cultural Freedom, an anti-Communist cultural organization that collapsed after disclosures that it had received funds from the Central Intelligence Agency.

"We consider this to be the most detailed and brutal account of Soviet prison life since the works of Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn about the Stalinist camps," Mr. Macrae said. "What makes it even more shocking is that Marchenko exposes the stark fact that nothing has changed despite the promises by the new Soviet leaders that

their rule would be more humane."

In the book, Mr. Marchenko describes his trial and the horrors of the slow journey to the prison at Potma, about 250 miles east of Moscow, packed in sealed compartments, nearly suffocated, "like fishes on the sand."

The author, who emerged from his imprisonment almost deaf and suffering from intestinal disease, describes a life of hunger, cold and the cruelty of the guards that drove many prisoners to self-mutilation, homosexuality and even cannibalism. These conditions sharply contrasted with the contention of Nikita S. Khrushchev, when he was Premier that the inhumanity of the prison camps during the Stalin era had been abolished.

Portions of the English trans-

lation of the book that became available to The New York Times yesterday included a description of the author's meeting with Mr. Daniel.

Mr. Daniel was convicted with Andrei D. Sinyavsky under Article 70 of the Russian criminal code, which was interpreted as a ban on the unauthorized publication abroad of "anti-Soviet propaganda and agitation." Mr. Sinyavsky, a literary critic whose clandestine writings were published abroad under the pseudonym Abram Tertz, was sentenced to seven years in a forced-labor camp. Mr. Daniel, who wrote under the name Nikolai Arzhak, received a five-year sentence.

Confirming earlier reports that Mr. Daniel had become ill after his imprisonment despite the help of fellow prisoners, Mr. Marchenko wrote:

"Daniel worked without complaint though he was not as strong as some of the others. He was soon feeling pain in the war wound in his shoulder but he refused to ask for easier work. All the prisoners then found ways of giving him a hand from time to time in order to lighten his task. One could often see the muscle boys like Potman, Yustov or Valeriy going over to Yuri and helping him finish the job."

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